

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

Historic name Maplelawn Farmstead

Other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 9575 Whitestown Road

N/A

☐

not for publication

city of town Zionsville

☒

vicinity

State Indiana

code IN

county Boone

code 011

zip code 46077

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide X local

Signature of certifying official

Date

Title

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

 entered in the National Register

 determined eligible for the National Register

 determined not eligible for the National Register

 removed from the National Register

 other (explain:)

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

<input type="checkbox"/>	private
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal
<input type="checkbox"/>	private

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

<input type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object
<input type="checkbox"/>	

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
13	0	buildings
1	0	sites
0	2	structures
0	0	Objects
14	2	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

Rural, Historical and Architectural Resources of Eagle
Township (Boone County) and Pike Township (Marion
County), 1820-1956

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

DOMESTIC: secondary structure

AGRICULTURE: agricultural outbuilding

AGRICULTURE: storage

AGRICULTURE: animal facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION: education-related

RECREATION & CULTURE: museum

SOCIAL: clubhouse

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN: Gothic, Queen Anne

LATE 19th & EARLY 20th: Craftsman

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: BRICK

walls: WOOD: weatherboard

METAL: steel

roof: ASPHALT METAL: Steel

other: CONCRETE

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

Maplelawn Farmstead is located at the southwest corner of Whitestown Road and 950 East in Eagle Township, near Zionsville in Boone County, Indiana.¹ The current four acre parcel now surrounding the farmstead was once an eighty acre farm.² The farm has been owned by two families. John and Jane Wolf started the farm in 1835 and worked the farm until 1900, when the Scott family purchased the farmstead. After 1945 the Scotts' descendants, the Bradleys, lived at the site until 2000.³ The farmstead has remained largely unaltered in the past century. Since 2003, Maplelawn Farmstead, Inc, a not-for profit has leased the property from the Zionsville Parks Department. Currently, there are sixteen contributing buildings that were constructed between 1850 and 1945 and include: a residence, privy, summer kitchen, and dairy barn. Maplelawn Farmstead represents a farm that operated for over a century and contributes to the history of agriculture in Boone County, Indiana.

Narrative Description

HOUSE

The Maplelawn Farmstead residence is an I-house in the vernacular style with elements of Gothic Revival, Queen Anne, and Craftsman styles. The house was constructed circa 1860. The property increased in value from \$450 in 1850 to \$2,400 in 1860.⁴ However, several additions were added, which accounts for the combination of styles. The two-story white, painted horizontal, clapboard sided house with a side-gabled red, asphalt shingled roof has a prominent central cross gable and a brick foundation.

The façade or north elevation of the house contains a full-width, one-story enclosed front porch with a hipped roof. The Craftsman porch is supported by four brown, brick, heavy squared piers. The two outer piers are taller than the two middle piers. There are three sets of paired awning windows on the porch. It is likely that the porch was constructed circa 1910 and enclosed later. Above the hipped roof porch, a balcony is defined by a modern, cast-steel balustrade. The balcony extends from a central door on the second story of the façade. The second-story door contains five lights and was likely added circa 1920s. The door is located in the central gable, which is an element of the Gothic Revival style. A historic photograph of the house (circa 1915) shows the house with a Queen Anne porch with turned spindles and a spindlework frieze. A brick chimney is located on the ridge of the roof.

The east elevation of the house contains a large, two-story bay window with three windows on each story. These windows are double-hung and original. The bay is not original to the I-house and was likely added during the 1910's. The bay exhibits Craftsman features with the hipped roof containing red shingles and exposed rafter tails. A single-story, side-gabled addition was added to the I-house circa 1900. The addition is clad in white, horizontal clapboard siding and a red asphalt shingled roof. This addition contains two one-over-one double-hung windows and a door. A brick chimney is also present on the ridge portion of the roof. A door north of the existing windows and door appears to have been filled in with smaller pieces of horizontal, white clapboard siding. In front of the addition is a poured concrete slab.

The south elevation, or rear of the house, contains several one-story additions that were formerly detached and once used as outbuildings. One of these buildings is the milk room. The front-gabled milk room sits on a stone foundation, has horizontal white clapboard siding, and a red asphalt shingled roof. The interior still contains a large milk sink. A small, center, fixed window is located on the north and east side of the milk room (photo 4). An addition was made on the south side of the house to connect two outbuildings, the milk room and an outbuilding converted to a garage, to the main house. The addition is clad in horizontal, white clapboard siding and contains a shed roof with red, asphalt singles, and exposed rafter tails. The side gable of the house addition is visible above the back door. Two windows are also located west of the

¹ The address is 9575 Whitestown Road.

² Marianne Heath Doyle, interview by Melissa Fanning, Zionsville, IN, January 17, 2010.

³ Joan Lyons, "Maplelawn Farmstead from the Beginning," *Zionsville Times Sentinel*, July 23, 2003.

⁴ Ibid.

back door. The garage addition is part of the west elevation, which is connected to the south elevation of the house. The addition was originally a storage shed but later converted to a garage. The building has horizontal, white, clapboard siding and a red asphalt shingled roof with exposed rafter tails. The white, metal garage door is located on the front gabled portion of the building. The gabled ends of the building also contain a window that is now covered with white clapboard siding.

The west elevation of the house contains two, double-hung one-over-one windows on the gabled portion of the I-house. A window is located on the first and second story. On this elevation of the house the circa 1900 addition to the back of the I-house contains a one over one double-hung window, which faces south. This addition was added to create a bathroom in the house. The bathroom addition is clad in white, horizontal, clapboard siding and has red, asphalt shingles. The remaining portion of the single-story addition contains a double-hung window and a small fixed window. A shed addition was added on this side of the single-story addition. The shed addition is clad in the white, horizontal clapboard siding and has red, asphalt shingles. This addition was added to create a breakfast nook off of the kitchen.⁵ Double-hung windows are present on the north, east, and west elevations of this addition.

The interior of the Maplelawn Farmstead House has the original I-house layout with several rear additions. Typical finishes include plaster walls and dark stained, simple woodwork. The interior of the house retains much of the original trim, flooring, and windows, although some alterations have been made over the years to the original plan. Built-in cupboards are found throughout the house. One enters the front door of the house into the east parlor. The east parlor contains the bay window (photo 6) and typical details like wood floors, baseboards, and window surrounds. The west parlor has similar details as the east parlor. The stairwell is on the east wall of the room but lacks a banister. The closet wall and door underneath the stairs has been removed and is now covered by a sheet.

Connected to the rear of both parlors is the dining room. This addition was added circa 1900 as a one-story side gabled addition that also includes the kitchen. This room has the typical wood floors, baseboards, and window surrounds as the other rooms but also has a high-set chair rail, located about halfway up the wall. Located on the south wall in the dining room is a built-in with glass doors that stores china (photo 8).

The dining room is connected to the kitchen. This room has the typical wood floors, baseboards, and window surrounds as the other rooms but the window surrounds are painted lime green and the other woodwork in the kitchen is painted cream. The north wall of the kitchen contains a built-in to store china or other kitchen items and a closet. The east wall of the kitchen contains a breakfast nook that was added circa 1910 (photo 9).

The second story retains much of its original plan. There are two bedrooms upstairs that retain original floors and painted woodwork (photos 10 and 11). The bedrooms are part of the I-house.

“MAPLELAWN” BARN

A large English barn with a hay loft and large open air overhang also exists on the property (photo 12). The barn and overhang were constructed between 1900 and 1925. A metal addition was placed on the back of the barn circa 1960 (photo 13). This barn has vertical, white clapboard siding and a red, shingled roof with exposed rafter tails. The north façade of the barn contains a center sliding door in vertical, white clapboard siding. A small, four light fixed window is located on each side of the sliding barn door. Above the sliding barn door, “Maplelawn” is printed in black paint. It is believed that the Scott family began calling the farmstead Maplelawn after all of the large Maple trees on the property.⁶ At the end of this elevation is a small entry door in vertical, white clapboard siding. The east elevation of the barn contains the hayloft with a gabled hay hood. A three bay addition with a shed roof is also visible on this elevation of the building. The sliding barn door to the bay is on this elevation of the building. The south elevation of the barn contains the three bay addition. Three lightning rods are located on top of the barn roof. The metal addition is attached to the west elevation of the barn. The metal addition has a red metal roof with a wide eave overhang. The north façade of the metal addition contains a center metal sliding barn door. A small entrance door is located to the east of the sliding barn door. To the west of the sliding barn door is a double-hung square one over one window. The west and south elevations of the metal addition contain a center sliding metal barn door. This barn retains integrity and is contributing to the property.

⁵ Breakfast nooks were added to create coziness and convenience in kitchens. As seen in catalogs like the Universal Millwork Catalog. *Universal Millwork Catalog 1927* (1927; repr., Mineola, New York: Dover Publications, 2003), 247.

⁶ Doyle interview.

ENGLISH BARN

An English barn that was converted to a dairy barn still exists on the Maplelawn Farmstead (photo 14). The barn was constructed between 1900 and 1925. The barn is clad in vertical, white clapboard siding and has a red asphalt shingled roof. The west and east elevations of the barn are the same. They both contain a large, sliding barn door in the center and two small entry doors on each end. Above the center, sliding door is a center gable with a covered rectangular window. Below this window is saw tooth detailing. Also, four windows are covered with white board. Two windows flank each side of the sliding barn door. The north and south elevations of the barn each contain four, vertical fixed windows towards the lower level. Two windows are located above the four fixed windows but are covered. Below the center of the gable is an old hay loft that is now covered. Three lighting rods are located on the top of the building. Inside the barn, the milk stalls remain as evidence of the barns conversion to dairy operations(photo 15). This barn retains integrity and is contributing to the property.

CORN CRIB

A white, horizontal and vertical clapboard sided corn crib with a side gabled red, metal roof with exposed rafter tails is located on the property (photo 13). The building was constructed circa 1900-1925. The gabled portions of the building contain the vertical clapboard siding. The crib has a large sliding, door on the north and south elevations with vertical white clapboard siding. The gabled end of the north elevation has a rectangular window high up in the gable. The building retains integrity and is contributing to the property.

SUMMER KITCHEN

A summer kitchen is located immediately next to the indoor kitchen, but the building is detached from the residence (photo 5). The summer kitchen was constructed circa 1900-1925. The building contains vertical white, clapboard siding, and a side gabled roof with red shingles and exposed rafter tails. This building retains integrity and is contributing to the property.

CHICKEN COOPS

The property still retains two chicken coops. Both chicken coops were constructed circa 1900-1925 (photo 16). Both buildings have shed roofs and vertical, white, clapboard siding. One coop faces north and has four fixed windows on the north elevation of the building. The entry door is located on the west elevation of the building. The other coop faces west and has four fixed windows on the west elevation of the building. The entry door is located on the north elevation of the building. Both of these buildings retain integrity and are contributing to the property.

GOOSE HOUSE

The goose house is a white, vertical clapboard sided structure with a red, shingled roof and exposed rafter tails (photo 17). The house has three small fixed windows on the north elevation of the building. This building retains integrity and is contributing to the property.

GRAIN BIN

A metal grain bin with a red metal roof is located on the property. The building was added circa 1920-1960 (photo 17). Most likely, the grain bin and metal machine shed were moved to the property after the Bradley's received control of the property. It was quite common for building to be moved from one farm to another. From examining aerial photos of the property in 1939 and 1955, it appears the buildings were not located on the property. However, neighbors remember the buildings being moved to the current location in the 1960s.⁷ The trees on the property had matured a great deal by the 1970 aerial photo making it impossible to determine if the buildings were located on the property at that time. This building demonstrates the progression of the farm, as prefabricated metal storage bins replaced the wooden granaries.⁸ However, this building is non-contributing to the property.

⁷ Doyle interview.

⁸ John Vlach, *Barns*. (New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2003), 263.

MACHINE SHED

A white painted, metal machine shed with a red, side gabled roof is located next to the grain bin. The shed was added circa 1920-1960 (photo 18). The west and east elevations of the building each contain three small windows with four lights. The north and south elevations of the building contain metal entrance doors. This building is non-contributing to the property.

HOG HOUSE

Two hog houses are located on the grounds (photo 19). They have red shingled shed roofs with exposed rafter tails and white, vertical, clapboard siding. Both of the buildings have central openings on the east elevations. These buildings were constructed circa 1900-1925 and are contributing to the property.

PRIVY

Located behind the main house is a privy constructed circa 1900-1925 (photo 3). The front gabled-roof building is clad in white, horizontal clapboard siding with a red, shingled roof and exposed rafter tails. The white, vertical clapboard sided door is located on the east elevation of the building. The south elevation of the building contains a small four light fixed window. This building retains good integrity and is contributing to the property.

DOGHOUSE

A small doghouse with horizontal, white, clapboard siding and a red, shingled roof with exposed rafter tails is located on the property (photo 20). The building has a door on the south elevation. The doghouse was constructed circa 1900-1945. This building retains good integrity and is contributing to the property.

GARAGE

A garage is located on the east side of the property (photo 21). The garage is clad in narrow, horizontal, white clapboard siding with a pyramidal red, asphalt shingled roof with exposed rafter tails. The white, metal garage door is located on the west elevation of the building. A small, four light fixed window is located on the east and north elevation of the building. The garage was constructed circa 1900-1925. The building retains good integrity and is contributing to the property.

FARMSTEAD LANDSCAPE

The site of the farmstead is also a contributing element of the property. Unfortunately, all the farm fields associated with Maplelawn have been developed into other uses. However, the area surrounding Whitestown Road still provides a rural feeling. This area is away from the town of Zionsville and maintains a sense of being in the country. Though the original eighty acres no longer survive, when one visits the property today they get a sense of what a working farm looked like. Numerous farm buildings are located on the property along with old Maple trees that were planted long ago. Over time, the owners organized Maplelawn into various chore areas: barns and grain, poultry, hogs, and domestic uses were clustered. The placement of the house allowed for a domestic environment, with tree-studded front yard. It is rare to find such an intact farmstead in Boone County.

Maplelawn Farmstead is a good example of a farmstead from the period 1852 to 1945. During this time period, farmers became less self-sufficient due to the advances in technology and economics. Consequently, farmers began to specialize in certain crops instead of farming as a way of life. The vernacular style of house with Gothic Revival, Queen Anne, and Italianate features has undergone several changes over the years, but the house retains good integrity as do the other buildings and structures. The site exhibits the qualities of a farmstead, a group of buildings and structures of a farm.⁹ Maplelawn Farmstead's close location to Michigan Road and the Penn Central railroad allowed the farm to reach different markets and take advantage of the advancing technology. Along with the house, this site includes various essential buildings and structures important to a farmstead. These buildings include two barns, a corn crib, summer kitchen, hog houses & chicken coops. It is not only important to know the architectural elements of the farmstead but also to know the families and history behind Maplelawn Farmstead.

⁹ As explained in Steelwater, "Rural Historical and Architectural Resources," 20.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- ☒ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☐ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- ☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

AGRICULTURE

Period of Significance

c.1860-1945

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance begins with the oldest building on the site (the c.1860 farmhouse), and continues to 1945. The farm continued to operate under various owners during this period. Generally, the nature of agriculture in Boone County changed dramatically after 1945.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

N/A

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria)

The Maplelawn Farmstead meets National Register Criterion A regarding the history of agriculture in Eagle Township, Boone County, Indiana as a prosperous farmstead during “the rise and fall of agriculture, 1852-1924” and 1925 to 1945 in Indiana¹⁰ The circa 1860 home, the outbuildings and surroundings show the progression of agricultural development and land use in central Indiana, especially in the last half of the nineteenth century and the first half of the twentieth century.

Narrative Statement of Significance (provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance)

During Maplelawn Farmstead’s period of significance, c.1860 until 1945, Indiana’s farming practices drastically changed. In the 1830s, when the land that is currently Maplelawn Farmstead was initially settled, manual labor was the key to a successful farm. By the 1850s, Maplelawn, like other farms of the time, would have been prosperous due to the internal improvements made on the farm and the advancement in transportation.¹¹ The first railroads were built across the state, and Indiana began to push for an improved highway system.¹² From 1850 to 1900, the advancement in farm equipment technology netted an increase in crop production. In Boone County, crop rotation began in 1870, fertilizer became commonly used in the county circa 1880, and custom animal feed arrived on the scene circa 1900. However, well into the nineteenth century, farming still remained a manual labor occupation.¹³ As it remained the states’ primary industry at the turn of the twentieth century, Maplelawn continued to operate as a farmstead.

Beginning in the twentieth century, manufacturing played a major role in Indiana’s economy due to the improvements in transportation. Hoosiers were able to earn their living in other fields.¹⁴ In the manufacturing sector, Indiana produced iron and steel, glass, electrical machinery, railroad cars, and automobiles.¹⁵ Consequently, agriculture no longer served as the leading aspect of Indiana’s economy. From 1900 to 1925, Boone County lost almost thirty percent of the county’s farms due to industrialization and the rise of big business.¹⁶ This amount is more than twice the average for the state as a whole and attributed to the county’s close proximity to Indianapolis.¹⁷ The families that maintained their farmsteads during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries would have been affected by these trends.

When Boone County formed in 1830, very few pioneers settled the area, but by October 22, 1835 when John and Jane Wolf settled eighty acres of land, the county had finally started to grow.¹⁸ The family brought six children; three daughters and three sons, with them. After completing the first step of acquiring the land, the family created a basic shelter, most likely constructed of trees felled on the land, and planted a few crops to sustain themselves. They later cleared the land and began to plant cash crops. Most of the early farmers in Indiana planted corn because it grows “in a variety of soils and climates, quickly produces a surplus, and provides a variety of food for humans and feed for

¹⁰ Eliza Steelwater, “Rural, Historical and Architectural Resources of Eagle Township (Boone County) and Pike Township (Marion County), Indiana, 1820-1956,” (National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form), 62. Registration requirements include a farmer’s dwelling and outbuildings with minimal post-historical alterations. Per the MPDF, Maplelawn Farmstead represents the period of the rise and fall of agriculture.

¹¹ Dave O. Thompson and William L. Madigan, *One Hundred and Fifty Years of Indiana Agriculture* (Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Bureau, 1969), 17.

¹² Clifton J. Phillips, *Indiana in Transition: The Emergence of an Industrial Commonwealth, 1880-1920*, Indianapolis, Indiana Historical Society and the Indiana Historical Bureau, 1968), 267.

¹³ Steelwater, “Rural, Historical and Architectural Resources,” 13.

¹⁴ James Madison, *The Indiana Way*, (Bloomington, Indiana, Indiana University Press, 1986), 86.

¹⁵ Madison, 160.

¹⁶ Madison, 162.

¹⁷ Steelwater, “Rural Historical and Architectural Resources,” 16.

¹⁸ Joan Lyons, “Maplelawn Farmstead from the beginning,” *Zionsville Times Sentinel*, July 23, 2003.

livestock.”¹⁹ The Wolf family planted corn. In 1850 the Wolf family produced 350 bushels of Indiana corn, in 1860 the family produced 200 bushels of Indiana corn, and by 1870 the family produced 100 bushels of Indiana corn.²⁰ As was the trend for most Hoosier farmers, the Wolf family raised hogs, which could be sold at the market and also kept to feed the family. The number of hogs owned by the Wolf family steadily decreased from 1850 to 1870. The Wolf family also owned several horses, sheep, cows, and other livestock. The Wolf’s grew: corn, wheat, oats, rye, potatoes, peas and beans. The Wolf family produced hay, butter, maple sugar, and molasses.²¹

The end of the isolation of pioneer days came with transportation improvements. The formation of Michigan Road, completed from Madison to Michigan City, Indiana in 1839, construction of the Lafayette and Indianapolis Railroad starting in the late 1840s, and almost simultaneous platting of Zionsville in 1852 all benefitted the Wolfs at Maplelawn. The close proximity to the town provided the family access to a market and a place to trade and sell goods produced on the farm. The new rail line from Indianapolis to Lafayette, Indiana ran through downtown in nearby Zionsville, to a depot opened in 1853 on First Street.²² From the 1850s to the 1860s, Indiana increased railroad tracks from 228 miles of track to 2,100 miles of track. The railroads allowed farmers to increase the number of markets that received their products so that goods which at one time took weeks to reach cities would now arrive in days.²³ Maplelawn Farmstead was only two miles from Indiana’s first major north-south thoroughfare.²⁴ Michigan Road, later called US 421, ran through Zionsville.²⁵ With the coming of the railroad and Michigan Road, farmers no longer remained subsistent.²⁶ The advances in transportation accounted for the increase in the standard of living for Indiana farmers.²⁷

Records indicate that farm life and the standard of living did indeed improve for the Wolf family. During the 1850s and 1860s, agriculture brought prosperity to Indiana’s economy.²⁸ Worth \$450 in 1850, the property’s value increased to \$2,400 in 1860.²⁹ Improvements occurred in all aspects of farm life. These included better farming tools, improvements in planting, and cultivating and harvesting crops along with the use of fertilizer.³⁰ During this time period, farmers began to encounter problems with the railroad. Though farm technology improved for the Wolf’s, farmers during the 1870s encountered problems with exorbitant charges issued by large railroad corporations, and the financial panic beginning in 1873 that lasted for several years.³¹

After 1880, the farm economy experienced many changes. As the depression lifted, specialization and an increase in the number of acres no longer meant profitability for farms. Farmers felt pressure to buy new equipment, to increase productivity and efficiency when profits began dropping.³² The impact on Indiana and Boone County caused numerous foreclosures, forced sales and mortgages of land that resulted in changes of ownership.³³ The panic may have attributed to one of the reasons why John Wolf decided to divide his property in 1876 between two of his daughters, Eliza and Nancy. It is unclear exactly when John Wolf died, but he was deceased by 1900 because the two divided parcels were sold.

¹⁹ Jeffrey Tenuth, *Indianapolis: A Circle City History* (Charleston, South Carolina: Arcadia, 2004), 34.

²⁰ Indiana Agricultural Census 1850, 1860, & 1870 Manuscript Records, Indiana State Archives.

²¹ Ibid.

²² Steelwater, “Rural, Historical and Architectural Resources,” 13.

²³ James Hetherington, *Indianapolis Union Station: Trains, Travelers, and Changing Times*, (Carmel, Indiana Guild Press, 2000), 5.

²⁴ Tenuth, 34.; Mapquest, “Directions,” <http://www.mapquest.com/maps> (accessed January 25, 2010).

²⁵ Thompson and Madigan, 6.

²⁶ Tenuth, 33 & 42.

²⁷ Thompson and Madigan, 20.

²⁸ Thompson and Madigan, 17.

²⁹ Indiana Agricultural Census 1850 & 1860 Manuscript Records, Indiana State Archives. Joan Lyons, “Maplelawn Farmstead from the beginning,” *Zionsville Times Sentinel*, July 23, 2003.

³⁰ Donald Carmony, *Indiana 1816-1850: The Pioneer Era* (Indianapolis: Indianapolis Historical Bureau and Indiana Historical Society, 1998), 63; In 1850 the value of farming implements and machinery on the Wolf farm was worth forty dollars and by 1860 the value increased to one hundred dollars.

³¹ Christine M. Dowdeswell, *Agricultural Development in the Eighteen Counties of Eastcentral Indiana, 1800-1890* (Indianapolis, DHPA, 1990), 21. Unpublished study prepared for Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology (DHPA) On file at DHPA.

³² Steelwater, “Rural Historical and Architectural Resources,” 16.

³³ Dowdeswell, “Agricultural Development,” 21.

By 1900, agriculture ceased to act as the single dominate force in Indiana's economy. For the first time, the manufacturing industry became the largest source of income for Indiana. Alfred (Elroy) and Elmira Scott purchased Eliza Wolf's fifty-four acre parcel for \$2,666 and the twenty-six acre parcel from Nancy Wolf's family for \$1,200 in 1900, which united John and Jane Wolf's original eighty acres. The Scott's three children, Ernest, Fairy and Merle joined their parents on the Maplelawn Farmstead. It is suspected that during the Scott's ownership of the farm the name "Maplelawn" was instituted, due to the large number of Maple trees on the property.³⁴

Around the 1900s, farmers began pushing for better roads. Farmers were frustrated with the poor road conditions, and the high costs associated with the transportation of goods. With the farmers involvement in the push for better roads, the national and state government finally became involved in the quest for better roads. The Federal Aid Road Act of 1916 and the Indiana Highway Commission of 1919 created new state roads.³⁵ The state of Indiana managed the upkeep of Michigan Road, now known as State Road 421.³⁶ With Maplelawn's close proximity to a state road, the Scott family could have sold surplus crops alongside the road to earn extra money. This road was one of the most popular roads in Indiana with roadside produce stands.³⁷

From 1900 to 1925 Boone County lost over one-quarter of their farms.³⁸ Remarkably, Maplelawn survived and continued to succeed as a thriving farm. This is evident because the Scotts added the chicken house, dairy barn, and transverse barn between 1900 and 1925. The Scotts likely added the brick front porch, two-story bay on the west side of the house, new front doors and storm doors, a kitchen breakfast nook, and potentially the addition that connects the milk room to the house.³⁹

From 1925 to 1945 modern practices and procedures were gradually introduced on a number of farms in Indiana and Boone County. However, the new science and technology available for agricultural practices did not reach all portions of the state equally. Most farms continued to operate on a more traditional level. Corn and hogs continued to be the mainstay on most farms, followed by dairy cattle, poultry and eggs.⁴⁰ During this time period, the Scott family was involved in dairy farming and they raised chickens. The dairy barn and chicken coops were installed by the Scott family. The Scott family survived the Great Depression and even managed to survive World War II, though records show that twenty-eight farms were abandoned or idled in Boone County from 1930 to 1938.⁴¹ In 1940 approximately 2,000 farms remained in Boone County.⁴²

Elroy resided at Maplelawn until his death on March 1, 1942. A year later Merle Scott, Elroy's son, died. Elroy's estate finally settled in 1945 and left control of the house and property to Alyce Bradley, Elroy's granddaughter and Merle's daughter. Alyce and her husband, Lester, owned the property and house from 1945 to 2000. Lester and Alyce worked side by side on the farm, and even had his and her tractors. At various times, the couple grew wheat, corn, and soybeans. The couple owned a few horses, raised hogs, and ran a successful dairy farm at Maplelawn. They also worked with sheep, lambs, goats and chickens. Alyce passed away in 1997 and her husband, Lester, died in 2000. They had no children.⁴³ Their deaths ended the Scott/Bradley families' century ownership of Maplelawn Farmstead. Today, the farm is leased from the Zionsville Parks Department by Maplelawn Farmstead, Inc, a not-for-profit organization, dedicated to create "experiences which connect people to the rich rural history of the 1930's Great Depression era on an Indiana family

³⁴ Doyle Interview.

³⁵ Suzanne Hayes Fischer, *Facilities for Motorists, 1900-1940* (Indianapolis, DHPA, 1994), 8-10. Unpublished study prepared for Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology (DHPA) On file at DHPA.

³⁶ Fisher, 8-10.

³⁷ Fisher, 41-42.

³⁸ Steelwater, "Rural, Historical and Architectural Resources," 16.

³⁹ Joan Lyons, "History of Maplelawn Farmstead," (lecture, Zionsville Historical Society, Zionsville, IN, August 10, 2003).

⁴⁰ James Madison, *Indiana Through Tradition and Change: A History of the Hoosier State and Its People 1920-1945* (Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society, 1982), 153-154.

⁴¹ U.S. Bureau of the Census, "Census of Agriculture Abandoned or Idled Farms, 1940"

http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/Historical_Publications/1940/Abandoned%20or%20idle/00359861.pdf (accessed April 27, 2010).

⁴² Ibid.

⁴³ Joan Lyons, "Maplelawn Farmstead: Tractors for two and combines, too," *Zionsville Times Sentinel*, September 17, 2003.

farm”.⁴⁴ Every summer Maplelawn Farmstead, Inc. also hosts a history summer camp for school children, outdoor movie nights, mystery theater dinners, and many other events.

The residence, barns, and other outbuilding show a variety of vernacular traditions popular in Indiana. The setting and character of the Maplelawn Farmstead still provides an intact example of agricultural history and farming in central Indiana and especially Boone County.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

Maplelawn Farm meets the registration requirements of a “farmstead” as defined in the multiple property documentation form “Rural, Historical and Architectural Resources of Eagle Township (Boone County) and Pike Township (Marion County), 1820-1956.” As Ms. Steelwater states in the MPDF, farmsteads in the area can demonstrate significance through “concentrations of built elements and their placement” which “evoke the workings and logic of a specific farming operation.”⁴⁵ Maplelawn clearly meets this test. Furthermore, Maplelawn, with its fifteen resources, only two of which are nominally non-historic, clearly “evokes a historic farmstead” that encompassed crop, dairy, poultry, and hog farming.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

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⁴⁴ Maplelawn Farmstead, “About Us,” http://www.maplelawnfarmstead.com/about_us.html (accessed January 11, 2010).

⁴⁵ Steelwater, “Rural, Historical and Architectural Resources,” 62.

Steelwater, Eliza. "Rural, Historical and Architectural Resources of Eagle Township (Boone County) and Pike Township (Marion County), Indiana, 1820-1956." National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, 2006. Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, Indianapolis.

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(accessed January 11, 2010).

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U.S. Bureau of the Census, "Census of Agriculture Abandoned or Idled Farms, 1940"
http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/Historical_Publications/1940/Abandoned%20or%20idle/00359861.pdf
(accessed April 27, 2010).

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
☐ previously listed in the National Register
☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

☐ State Historic Preservation Office
☐ Other State agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☐ University
☒ Other
Name of repository: Indiana Landmarks

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 4 acres
(do not include previously listed resource acreage)

Maplelawn Farmstead
Name of Property

Boone County, IN
County and State

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1 16 560460 4424000
Zone Easting Northing

3
Zone Easting Northing

2
Zone Easting Northing

4
Zone Easting Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (describe the boundaries of the property)

A rectangle parcel of approximately four acres is located in the Northeast quarter of Section 34, Township 18 North, Range 2 East in Boone County, Indiana. The boundary is further defined by the sketch map included with the nomination and by the UTM points given in section 10.

Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)

The boundary includes the farmhouse, barns, and outbuildings which is where the main activity occurred on the farm. This is the only remaining portion of the farm leased by Maplelawn Farmstead, Inc. The remaining acres of the farm were sold in 2000.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Melissa Fanning/Rebecca Smith, Community Preservation Specialist

organization Indiana Landmarks

date 7/7/2010

street & number 340 W. Michigan Street

telephone 317-639-4534

city or town Indianapolis

state IN

zip code 46202

e-mail rsmith@indianalandmarks.org

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive black and white photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Maplelawn Farmstead

City or Vicinity: Zionsville

County: Boone

State: Indiana

Photographer: Melissa A. Fanning

Date Photographed: May 5, 2010

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

1 of 22

IN_BooneCounty_MaplelawnFarmstead_0001

Front Elevation/Façade of house

Camera is facing south

2 of 22

IN_BooneCounty_MaplelawnFarmstead_0002

East Elevation of house

Camera is facing northeast

3 of 22

IN_BooneCounty_MaplelawnFarmstead_0003

South Elevation/Rear of house and privy

Camera is facing east

4 of 22

IN_BooneCounty_MaplelawnFarmstead_0004

Milk Sink

Camera is facing east

5 of 22

IN_BooneCounty_MaplelawnFarmstead_0005

West Elevation of house and summer kitchen

Camera is facing south

6 of 22

IN_BooneCounty_MaplelawnFarmstead_0006

East Parlor

Camera is facing south

7 of 22

IN_BooneCounty_MaplelawnFarmstead_0007

West Parlor

Camera is facing north

8 of 22

IN_BooneCounty_MaplelawnFarmstead_0008

Dining Room

Camera is facing south

9 of 22

IN_BooneCounty_MaplelawnFarmstead_0009

Kitchen

Camera is facing south

10 of 22

IN_BooneCounty_MaplelawnFarmstead_0010

West Bedroom

Camera is facing north

11 of 22

IN_BooneCounty_MaplelawnFarmstead_0011

East Bedroom

Camera is facing north

12 of 22

IN_BooneCounty_MaplelawnFarmstead_0012

Maplelawn Barn

Camera is facing west

13 of 22

IN_BooneCounty_MaplelawnFarmstead_0013

Maplelawn Barn and Corn Crib

Camera is facing southeast

14 of 22

IN_BooneCounty_MaplelawnFarmstead_0014

English Barn

Camera is facing southeast

15 of 22

IN_BooneCounty_MaplelawnFarmstead_0015

Milk Stalls

Camera is facing east

16 of 22

IN_BooneCounty_MaplelawnFarmstead_0016

Chicken Coop

Camera is facing south

17 of 22

IN_BooneCounty_MaplelawnFarmstead_0017

Goose House

Camera is facing north

18 of 22

IN_BooneCounty_MaplelawnFarmstead_0018

Grain Bin and Machine Shed

Camera is facing east

19 of 22

IN_BooneCounty_MaplelawnFarmstead_0019

Hog Houses

Camera is facing southwest

20 of 22

IN_BooneCounty_MaplelawnFarmstead_0020

Dog House

Camera is facing northwest

21 of 22

IN_BooneCounty_MaplelawnFarmstead_0021

Garage and Landscape

Camera is facing southeast

22 of 22

IN_BooneCounty_MaplelawnFarmstead_0022

Landscape

Camera is facing northwest

Maplelawn Farmstead
Name of Property

Boone County, IN
County and State

Property Owner:

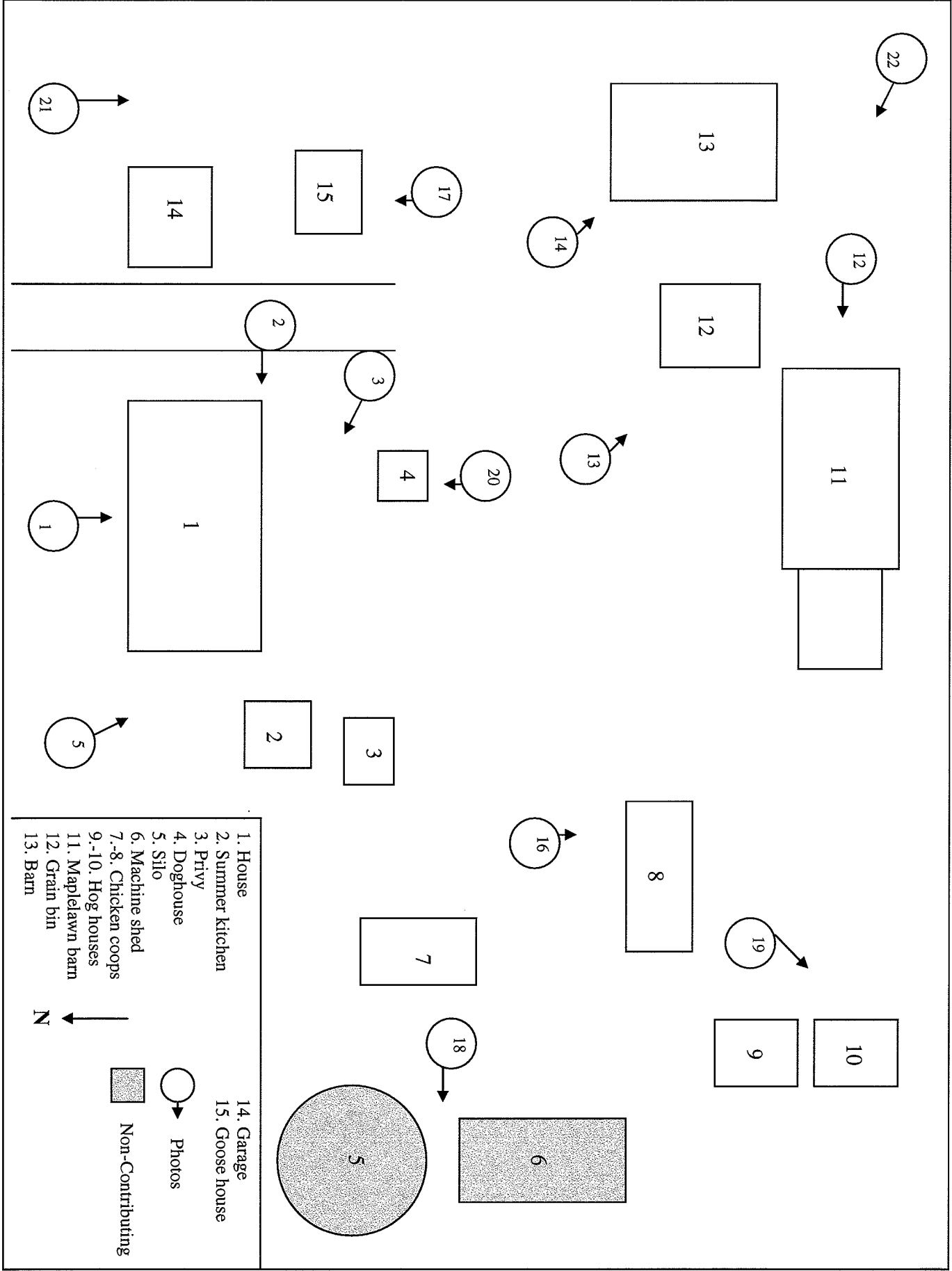
(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Zionsville Parks and Rec Department, Director Matt Dickey
street & number 1075 Parkway Drive telephone 317-733-2273
city or town Zionsville state IN zip code 46077

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, PO Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

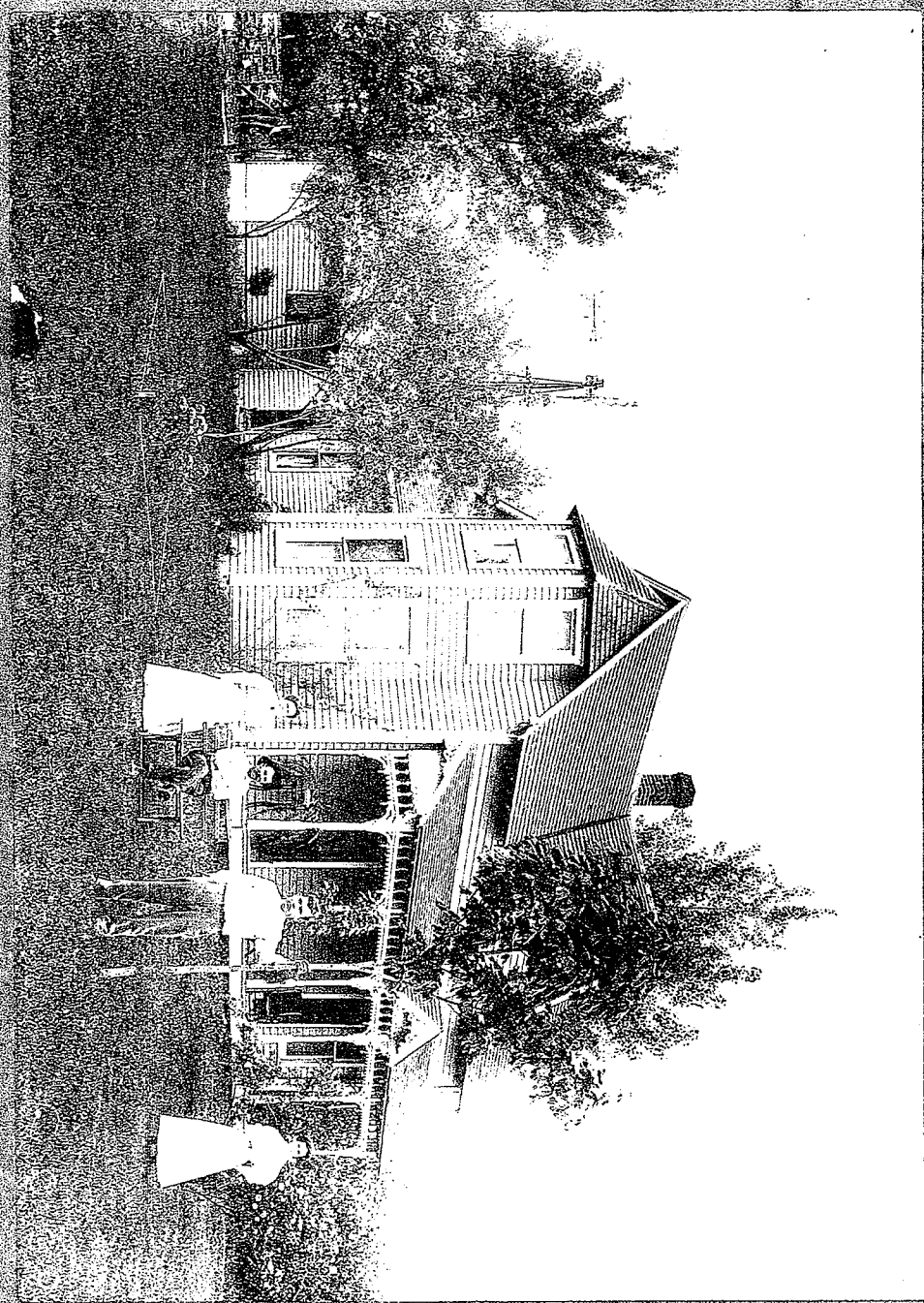
MAPLELAWN FARMSTEAD HISTORIC DISTRICT



WHITESTOWN RD.

*Property and proposed boundaries are the same
*Not to scale

MARZELAHN MANSION HISTORIC DISTRICT, BOONE COUNTY, INDIANA





Maplelawn Farm, Boone Co., IN photo 5



Maplelawn Farm, Boone Co., IN photo 6



Maplelawn Farm, Boone Co., IN photo 12



Maplelawn Farm, Boone Co., IN photo 13



Maplelawn Farm, Boone Co., IN photo 18



Maplelawn Farm, Boone Co., IN photo 20